

CREATIVELY SPEAKING

Loving, Nurturing & Educating Children Since 1968

November 2011

CREATIVE PLAYROOMS

Vol. 11



Creative Playrooms Montessori Schools & Child Care Centers

32750 Solon Road
Solon, OH 44139
(440) 349-9111

www.creativeplayrooms.com

Joan Wenk, M.S. Ed.
President

Shirley Jeric
Vice President

Terri Jacobson
Executive Assistant

Bob Starman
Finance

Tina Merolla
H.R. Coordinator

Debbie Pack
Regional Director

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



November 7-11: Pre-K Parent Conferences

November 14-18: Montessori Parent Conferences

Kindergarten Parent Conferences

Kindergarten Report Cards

November 17: Classroom Thanksgiving Feasts

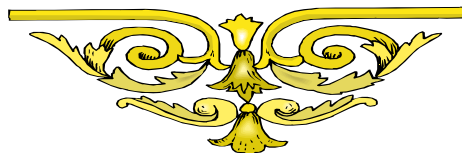
November 24: Thanksgiving Day (centers are closed)

From the Regional Director's Desk:

It's time for Parent-Teacher conferences this month for the children in Pre-K, Montessori, and Kindergarten. The teachers look forward to sharing each child's successes in the classroom and highlighting something special he/she contributes. Please be sure to schedule time to speak with your child's teacher. Evaluations will also be distributed this month for all Infant, Toddler, and Preschool children, as well as swimmers. Look for information regarding our cookie dough fundraiser this month.

The children will discuss the story of the first Thanksgiving throughout this month, as well as create hats and decorations as they prepare for their Thanksgiving feast on Thursday, November 17, 2011.

- Please use caution in the parking lots and observe the 5MPH speed limit. Also, do not leave cars running in the parking lot while you enter the building.
- All children should have weather appropriate clothing in their cubby at all times.



What's Happening Around Us...

Submitted by Center Directors

Independence ~ Donna Kupiecki

Can you believe it's November? Time flies when you are having fun! Don't forget to "fall behind" on November 6th, and turn the clocks back an hour. November 11th is Veteran's Day, and we will be writing special thank you notes to our Veterans for all their hard work. The weeks of November 14-18th is Montessori Parent Teacher conferences. Please see your child's teacher to sign up. We will also discuss the importance of Thanksgiving and what we are thankful for. Our classroom feast will be on the 17th. Don't forget the center will be closed on Thursday, November 24th for Thanksgiving. We will be open on the 25th normal business hours 6:30 to 6:30.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Ms. Pat! She has been working with the Independence Montessori & Child Care Center infants since October of 2005. Pat does a great job with the babies; she teaches them songs and gives them a lot of TLC. In her spare time, she sings in her church choir. Pat is very dedicated to her family and loves spending time with her grandchildren. Thank you, Ms. Pat for all your hard work!

Maple Heights ~ Lisa Woodward

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Remember to count your blessings this month. We look forward to our Thanksgiving feast on November 17th. We will look great in our Pilgrim and Indian costumes. Our parent/teacher conferences will be held this month so make sure you sign up to discuss your child's growth and development.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Ron Malaga! Ron celebrated two years with Creative Playrooms as one of our dedicated bus drivers. He loves the outdoors. Ron resides in Parma with his wife, Debbie, of 25 years and his two sons, Ronnie and Chris. Thanks for doing such a great job, Ron!

Parma ~ Gina Kraus

This month the children are busily preparing for our Annual Thanksgiving Feast. They are busy learning the meaning of Thanksgiving and sharing what they are thankful for. The Montessori classroom will put on a play for the parents during their feast. Each child will have a part explaining the meaning of Thanksgiving through costume, song, and poems.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Ms. Miaya Settles, our employee of the month. Ms. Miaya has been a Creative Playrooms employee since March 2005. As a Montessori Teacher, she is a major asset to our program. Ms. Miaya understands the importance of being a care giver and does everything necessary to make her group feel loved and safe throughout the day, as well as prepare them for success in Kindergarten. Three words the families would use to describe her are friendly, loving, and happy.

Solon ~ Kathleen Milliken

November leaves are falling! The children will be learning the importance of giving and sharing. We are busy preparing for our Thanksgiving feast which will be on November 17th. This month we also work on collecting food for our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Our fall parent/teacher conference dates will be posted; please sign up if your child is 4 years old or older. Look for information on our cookie dough fundraiser this month.

Employee of the Month

Thank you to Linda Kubica. Linda has been with Creative Playrooms since April 2004; she has been the building opener for over 4 years and the Supervisor in the Infant room. She is here at 5:45 a.m. every morning, preparing the building for the children and parents. Linda has three grown children, a grandson, and a grandchild on the way. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends in her free time. She also enjoys reading a good book.

Strongsville ~ Dawn Holbrook

It is that time of year when you reflect on all you have to be thankful for. We have a lot to be thankful for here at Strongsville Montessori & Child Care - from our amazing children and supportive parents to our great staff. On November 17th, our cook will prepare a wonderful Thanksgiving feast for lunch. This month the Kindergarten and Pre-K classes will be enjoying a trip to our local library for story time. The Montessori and Pre-K classes will be taking a field trip to the Children's Museum.

Employee of the Month

Rebecca Comprix started with Strongsville Montessori and Child Care Center in June of this year, and has been a wonderful addition to our Toddler program. Becky has always loved working with children. The favorite part of her day is when she enters the classroom in the morning, and all the children call out her name! In her spare time, Becky likes to do crafts and scrap booking. Congratulations, Becky!

Westlake ~ Susan Frazier

The temperature and the leaves are falling, but inside we're cozy and busy. On the 17th, our wonderful cook, Ms. Gail, will prepare a Thanksgiving feast for our lunch. The children will be making decorations and costumes as they prepare to re-enact the first Thanksgiving. All month the children will be learning about good manners, giving thanks, and the participants in the first American Thanksgiving. In Pre-K, the color of the month is yellow, and the shape is the square. We will also prepare for National American Teddy Bear Day with a week full of "bear-y" fun activities.



Employee of the Month

Crystal Cruz recently celebrated her eighth anniversary with the company. She taught in both the Montessori and the Preschool classes before assuming the position of Assistant Director in May. Crystal Cruz is a devoted mother to Jayla, 4, and a key member of the Westlake Montessori team. Thank you, Crystal, for all you do!

November Curriculum Ideas & Classroom Themes

Infant Info - Themes: Dancing, Turkeys, Touch, Feel

Sensory:	Sticky & Rough, Sweet and Sour, Bubble Time
Gross Motor:	Stacking, Dancing, Stretching, Basketball
Fine Motor:	Sponge Paint, Spin the Top, Car Mat, Coloring
Audio/Visual:	Bang the Drum, Peek-a-Boo, Body Awareness, Puppets
Songs:	5 Little Turkeys, Where is Pumpkin?
Art:	Handprint Turkey, Painting, Pilgrim Hats



Jr. Toddler Tidbits - Themes: Harvest Time, Thanksgiving



Practical Life:	Dress the Baby, Rake the Leaves, Wash Your Hands, Dress Up
Gross Motor:	Beanbag Toss, Parachute, Wash the Toys
Language:	Letters E & F, Numbers 3 & 4
Science:	Color Sort, Magnets, Bug Stackers, Jell-o
Art:	Indian Corn, Turkey Toes, Handprint Turkey, Cornucopia

Sr. Toddlers/Preschool Posting - Themes: Sleep Tight, Manners Matter, Let's Give Thanks!

Practical Life:	Library Play, Turkey Farm, Mr. Scarecrow, Indian Village, Teddy Dress-Up
Gross Motor:	Get that Bread! Hall a Ball, Gobble, Shadow Play, Follow that Moon
Language/Math:	Candy Corn Math, ABC Hopscotch, Spanish
Science/Cooking:	Edible Flashlight, Follow that Moon, Measure and Pour
Art:	Feast Placemats and Headbands, Scarecrow Puppet, Lacing Sneakers



Pre-K Publication - Themes: Wild West, Teddy Bear Bonanza, What's Cooking



Gross Motor:	Zookeeper, Serving Food, Thanksgiving Table, Indian Village
Language Arts:	Letter J, K, L, M: What sound do you hear? Numbers 12, 13, 14
Music/Movement:	Shoofly, Bear Hunt, Food Tag, Turkey Trot, Mayflower
Messy Table/Cooking:	Boo Boo Bears, Wash Dishes, Bean Mosaic, Timers
Art:	Corn Husk Paint, Putty Bear Prints, Veggie Prints, Indian Headband, Bouncy Ball Paint

Before & After School Social Corner - Themes: Finding Nemo

Hands On Science:	Fill It Up, Sink and Float, Potato Turkey
Cooking:	Marshmallow Octopus, Edible Ocean, Flavored Popcorn
Games Galore:	Name that Tune, Simon Says, Heads Up 7 Up, Magic Bridge
Art:	Under the Sea Mural, Stuffed Turkeys, Button Day
Creation Corner:	Starfish Print, Mosaic Underwater, Paper Bag Whale



MONTESSORI MATTERS

Independence Center

Themes: Thanksgiving, Pilgrims, Indians

We have a busy month. We will focus on being thankful. Our Thanksgiving feast on the 17th will enable us to practice our good manners and talk about what we're thankful for. We will dress as pilgrims and Indians. In honor of Veteran's Day, we will be sending out thank you notes to our servicemen and women. We will be practicing for our holiday show.



Sensorial:	Mystery Bag (Indian Corn, Leaves, etc.)
Geography:	Mayflower Journey
Language:	Letters P, U, D, F
Math:	Counting Backwards
Practical Life:	Setting a Table for our Feast
Science:	Sink-Float, Fall Leaves



Parma Center

Themes: Mayflower, Pilgrims, Native American Indians

During autumn, embrace the beautiful colors. Remember building memories is one of the best things you can give your child. So have fun jumping in the leaves and going on hayrides together. This month we will focus on the harvest. Our fall feast, which the children will be preparing, will be held on November 17th.

Sensorial:	Uncoded Cube
Geography:	Europe/Flag Matching
Language:	Alphabet Order
Math:	Teen Board
Practical Life:	Corn Tweezing
Science:	Dinosaur Bone Matching
Art:	Turkey Feather Creations



MONTESSORI MATTERS

Solon Center

Themes: Pets, Harvest, Pilgrims and Native Americans

Welcome to November! We have already started to practice for our winter program, which will be in December. We're sure your children will be singing their songs at home. Encourage them to do so. Please make sure you sign up for a parent/teacher conference this month, as well. Take time to check the news board for any other classroom information.



Sensorial:	Cylinder Blocks, Bi-Nomial & Tri-Nomial Cubes
Geography:	Canada and Land Forms
Language:	Letters I to M, Go Togethers
Math:	Numbers 9 to 13, 1-10 Counters
Practical Life:	How to Clean a Spill, Folding Napkins
Science:	Living & Non-Living, Parts of a Pumpkin and Leaf



Strongsville Center

Themes: My Body, Rainforest, Thanksgiving

Welcome to the month of November. This month we will take a fieldtrip to the Children's Museum. Please be sure to sign up for a Parent/Teacher conference. If none of the times listed are convenient for you, please see Miss Kay to schedule a different time.



Sensorial:	Browns Stairs, Red Rods, Color Boxes 1 or 2
Geography:	Map of United States and Canada
Language:	Moveable Alphabet and Metal Inserts
Math:	Number Ten Boards and Teen Boards
Practical Life:	Bean Spooning, Rice Pouring, and Water Works
Science:	Heavy and Light (Using a scale)



Westlake Center

Themes: Rainforests, The Four Elements, Native Americans & Early America, Thanksgiving

This month we will talk a lot about our Earth - its elements, history, and people. We will focus on giving thanks and being grateful as we study about the first Thanksgiving and have a classroom feast. The class will also visit South America and explore the rainforest environment. We will continue to advance in our Math and Language works.

Sensorial:	Color Tablets Box #3
Geography:	South America
Language:	Moveable Alphabet
Math:	Teen Numbers w/ Bead Materials
Practical Life:	Rock Sort
Science:	Earth Model



KINDERGARTEN KORNER

Maple Heights Center ~ Ms. Elyse Cox

Themes: Shapes, 5 Senses, Thanksgiving (Giving Thanks), Ohio History

November will prove to be another exciting month. In the beginning of the month, we will be learning about shapes and our five senses. These themes will be incorporated throughout our entire curriculum. As we approach Thanksgiving, we'll talk about all things we are thankful for this year. Our class will have their annual Thanksgiving feast on November 17th.

Math: Patterns, Over/Under, Above/Below
Language: Letters Dd, Ss, & Mm, Short "a" Sound
Science: Plants, The Earth, Our Home
Social Studies: State of Ohio



Parma Center ~ Mrs. Nicole Tokar

Themes: The Five Senses, Ohio, Space, Thanksgiving

November, a time of rich autumn colors, cool weather, turkey and pumpkin pie! This month, we will be writing a poem about what we are thankful for.

In Language, we will learn word families, writing, and comprehension skills. In Science we will cover the five senses. Social Studies we will be learning about our great State of Ohio. Finally, in Math we will focus on the use of the numbers 1-10.



Math: Graphs
Language: Handwriting Skills
Science: Space
Social Studies: State of Ohio

Solon Center ~ Mrs. Sarah Kelley

Themes: Shapes, The 5 Senses, A Time to Give Thanks, & Ohio History



Welcome to fall...the leaves are quickly changing colors. We will be busy learning about the pilgrims and Indians as we prepare for our Thanksgiving Feast, which will be held on November 17th. Parent/teacher conferences will be in the early part of the month - please remember to sign up. The center will be closed on November 24th for Thanksgiving. Creative Playrooms will be open on Friday, November 25th, but there will be no Kindergarten class that day.

Math: Use Numbers 0-10 (Count & Write), Ordinals and Number Graphing
Language: S, M, I, Classifying Events in Stories, Rhyming, Segmenting Sounds in Words
Social Studies: Pilgrims, Ohio History (beginning, middle & end)
Science: Landforms, Earth Resources, Recycling & Reusing

KINDERGARTEN KORNER

Strongsville Center ~ Mrs. Sue Kemp

Themes: Shapes, My Five Senses, Time to Give Thanks, Ohio, Our Wonderful State

As we take time to be thankful for all that we have, try to build some new memories together as the holidays approach. In Language, we will work on the letters I to L, and introduce various activities relating to the letters. Our popcorn wall of words is filling up with more words for your child to learn. In Math, we will focus on positions and patterns, then move on to using numbers to 10. In Science and Social Studies we will explore our five senses, symbols of Ohio, and the first Thanksgiving.

Be sure to sign up for parent/teacher conferences the week of November 14th.



Math:	Numbers 0-10, Positions and Patterns
Language:	Letters I-L, Popcorn Sight Words
Social Studies:	First Thanksgiving, Ohio Symbols
Science:	Five Senses

Westlake Center ~ Mrs. Emily Harter

Themes: Turkeys, Thanksgiving



HAPPY NOVEMBER! This month is sure to be a busy one, as we had into the holiday season. Our third field trip is Friday, November 11th. We will be visiting the Bay Village Nature and Science Center. Please remember that Thanksgiving break will be Thursday, the 24th, and Friday, the 25th, however child care will be available on Friday, the 25th.

Math:	Numbers, Simple Addition, Graphing, Greater Than, Less Than Review
Language:	Noun Review, Adjectives, Sequencing, Guided Reading
Social Studies:	The First Thanksgiving, Pilgrims & Native Americans, The Mayflower
Science:	Weather, Why Do Seasons Change?

Pool News ~ Parma

(A different center is highlighted each month)

Learning about being safe around water is just as important as learning to swim.

This month we are working on reaching and throwing assists, in addition to brushing up on our front crawl and flutter-kicking skills.



Employee Spotlight Brenda Early

Brenda has been employed by Creative Playrooms for 8 years. She worked in our infant room for 7 years and has recently transferred to our toddler room. Brenda has two grandchildren who attend our center.

She thoroughly enjoys working at Creative Playrooms and the friends she's made here. In her free time, Brenda spends a lot of time with her grandchildren. She also enjoys vacationing and spending time with her siblings. One day, Brenda would love to visit Europe.



~~HAPPY BIRTHDAY~~

MAY TODAY BE AS EXTRAORDINARY AS YOU!

~~HAPPY ANNIVERSARY~~



SHARING THE JOYS THAT BLOSSOM EACH YEAR IN YOUR DEVOTION
TO CREATIVE PLAYROOMS MONTESSORI & CHILD CARE CENTERS!

NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

CORPORATE

NONE

Steve Doksansky 7 Yrs.

INDEPENDENCE

Pauline Sokolowski 11/26

Susan Stoika 3 Yrs.

MAPLE HEIGHTS

NONE

Shekeshia Dennis 10 Yrs.

PARMA

Sarah Fedor 11/04
Melissa Stankiewicz 11/17

Gina Kraus 9 Yrs.
Laura Rinaldo 10 Yrs.
Yanira Torres 1 Yr.
Tracy Weldon 7 Yrs.
Katheryn Wheelis 2 Yrs.

SOLON

Holly Rich 11/01

April Pettis 5 Yrs.
Rachel Young 4 Yrs.

STRONGSVILLE

Richard Martinek 11/17
Melissa Pokatello 11/04

Kandice Yatsko 4 Yrs.

WESTLAKE

NONE

Cassie Desmarais 1 Yr.